



SEE A FILM
www.AFI.com/AFIFEST

AFI FEST PRESENTED BY Audi
November 1-11, 2007
Tickets & Passes on Sale NOW

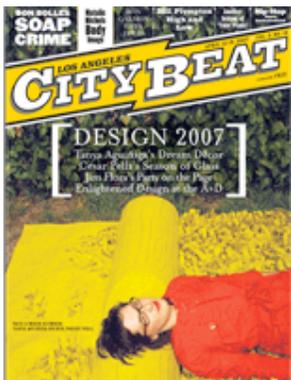
LOS ANGELES
CITY BEAT

Search

Sign up for our free weekly newsletter

Subscribe

[HOME] [CLASSIFIEDS] [PAST ISSUES] [SPECIAL ISSUES] [ADVERTISING] [CONTACT] [SISTER PAPERS]



HOME

COVER STORY

Tanya Aguiñiga's Bright Dreams

Growing up in two countries inspired the young designer's blend of art and activism

Party on the Page

The musical graphics of Jim Flora

From Outer Space and Down Rabbit Holes

Fry's Electronics takes a whimsical approach to store decor

Another Stick on the Wall

Surface graphics turn any room into your work of art

Forms and Functions

Stuff to see and do in the wide world of L.A. design

FRONTLINES

Germ Busted for Soap

7 DAYS

7 Days of Design

~ By DR. REBECCA EPSTEIN ~



Photo by Kenneth Brown loft, Grey Crawford Photography

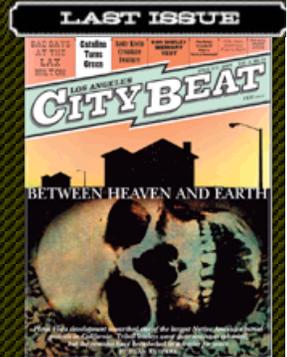
~ Where can you get a cracker around here? (see Sunday) ~

Paths to Enlightenment

Within L.A.'s endlessly shifting urban landscape, the Architecture and Design (A + D) Museum has singled out 17 developers who, in its estimation, have a wider vision of the city's future aesthetic than the ubiquitous stucco apartment or boxy office building on pedestrian-unfriendly streets. The exhibit Enlightened Development includes proposals from nonprofit organizations as well as multinational and multi-industry corporations such as AEG, owner and operator of the Staples Center.

Exhibition curator Tibbie Dunbar cites three rubrics under which the diverse participants were judged: good design (aesthetic creativity), consideration of the urban fabric, and sustainability.

The most salient characteristic the participating developers share is a more holistic approach to urban design. Livable Places, for example, was founded with the explicit goal of redeveloping underutilized urban spaces into affordable, green housing for a variety of income levels. One such project – on display at the museum – is an apartment building in



Pick up a paper

Click to view 2007 Real Best L.A.

15
Lofts For Sale
\$510,000 - \$849,000



Drummer Don Bolles is jailed after police say soap bottle in his car contains illegal drug, GHB

Driving the Future

Biogas rises but hydrogen sinks as big automakers muscle into alternative car technologies in Anaheim

3RD DEGREE

Cesar Pelli

The Pacific Design Center architect on his new Red building, long-term projects, and the evolution of West Hollywood

EDITORIAL

History Lives

LETTERS

STREET

Step On It, Keeping the Dream Alive

7 DAYS

7 Days of Design

L.A.&E

Battle of the Billboards

L.A.'s plan to spiff up sidewalks leads to more street-level ads than it bargained for

SUBBACULTCHA

Body Parts

LIVE

The Loud Good Friday

The Thermals raze Jesus in the Echo's basement annex

GROUNDWELL

No Luck Is Good Luck

Vancouver hip-hop trio's instrumental album is loaded with creative charm

FILM

New Wave

Animator Bill Plympton

Long Beach, built on a lot that was previously a school bus yard.

Ryan Lehman, Livable Places's executive director, believes an "enlightened" development project in part "needs to interact with the street in a way that is conducive to urbanism; which means having some visual variety and mix of uses so it encourages people to get out and walk." That's right, walk.

The exhibit also highlights the integration of art into development via the Venice Collaborative, a development company founded by Frank Murphy. Although it focuses mainly on Venice condominiums, single-family units, and what Murphy calls "art lofts," the company firmly stipulates that every project - several of which line the Abbot Kinney thoroughfare - must dedicate at least one public wall of the building to large-scale art.

"We kind of like creating some tension between the artist and the architect; to get them to kind of bash heads," Murphy says, laughing. "It gets some really exciting stuff going."

As for how these developers will change L.A. in the coming decade, Dunbar is pragmatic. Her hope, however, "is that we're creating communities where one can live and work." The face of L.A. is changing rapidly, maybe even, in some cases, for the better. Go see how.

-Ayse Arf

Enlightened Development. A + D Museum, 5900 Wilshire Blvd., L.A., (323) 932-9393. Tues.-Fris. 10 a.m.-6 p.m.; Sats.-Suns. 11 a.m.-5 p.m. \$5; \$2.50 students and seniors; free for kids under 12. Closes May 31. Aplusd.org.

THIS WEEK IN THE CITY

Thursday 12

TAKE IT OUTSIDE/INSIDE

We know we should eat them, but it's also healthful just looking at them. Add more greens to your daily visual diet by creating a lush enclosed garden with the help of noted L.A. architect and educator Frederick Fisher. As part of the environmental lecture series "GreenSpeak" at Descanso Gardens, Fisher will give the talk "A Space in the Middle: Building Wrapped Around Gardens," which will include a brief history of this type of human-created landscape. He'll also discuss the current values and varied interpretations of these "outdoor rooms," with examples from his practice. 7 p.m.-9 p.m. \$20; \$18 members. Reservations recommended. 1418 Descanso Dr., La Cañada-Flintridge, (818) 949-7980. Descansogardens.org.

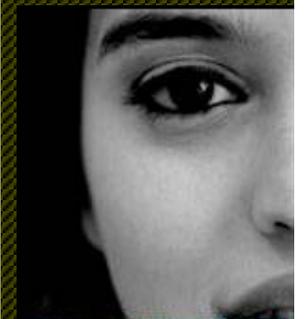
Friday 13

MAKE IT WORK

This week offers almost more design talks than Sherwin-Williams has colors, and you could paint the town red trying to attend them all. Coming up Wednesday, for example, AIA/LA hosts an Architects' Forum featuring John Barone, David Thompson, Clive Wilkinson, and duo Linda Pollari and Robert Somol (info: Aialosangeles.org). However, today, Friday the 13th, could be your lucky day - especially if you're into sustainable "holistic" design. Kat Steele (no kidding) of the Oakland-based Permaculture Guild speaks tonight about the

www.waringlofts.com
5806 W. Waring Ave.
Hollywood CA, 90038
2 Blocks from Larchmont & Melrose
Morgan Pasco
310-621-2008

LOS ANGELES
CITYBEAT
Classifieds
Weekly Download



SEE A FILM

AFI FEST
PRESENTED BY Audi
NOV 1-11 2007
www.AFI.com/AFIFEST